

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

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*Claims 1-7 (cancelled)*

8. (New) A stroller comprising:

a body structure adapted to be unfolded into an unfolded state, for use, and folded into a folded state;

a handle supported on said body structure for forward and backward turning so as to be provided in either a backward-inclined position for a back-faced pushing mode or a forward-inclined position for a front-faced pushing mode; and ..

C/ a handle locking mechanism for locking said handle, to said body structure, in a state for the back-faced pushing mode or a state for the front-faced pushing mode, said handle locking mechanism including structure that permits unlocking of said handle from said body structure only when said body structure is in the unfolded state and inhibits unlocking of said handle from said body structure when said body structure is in the folded state.

9. (New) The stroller according to claim 8, wherein said body structure can be folded and unfolded with said handle being locked to said body structure in the state for the back-faced pushing mode.

10. (New) The stroller according to claim 9, wherein said handle locking mechanism includes

(i) a stopping projection provided on an outer surface of said body structure, and

(ii) a stopping member having a groove that is adapted to engage said stopping projection, said stopping member being supported on said handle for sliding movement along an axis of said handle and being biased in a locking direction so as to allow said groove to engage said stopping projection,

such that when said stopping projection is engaged in said groove said stopping projection turns relative to said stopping member as a condition of said body structure changes between the folded state and the unfolded state, and

such that a condition of engagement of said stopping projection and said groove changes according to an angular position of said stopping projection relative to said groove.

11. (New) The stroller according to claim 10, wherein  
said stopping projection includes

(i) a shaft part, with said groove being adapted to engage said stopping projection by engaging said shaft part such that said shaft part turns relative to said stopping member, when said shaft part is engaged by said groove, as the condition of said body structure changes between the folded state and the unfolded state, and

(ii) an end part, on an end of said shaft part, that is to extend in a direction parallel to the axis of said handle when said stopping projection is at a first position corresponding to when said body structure is in the unfolded state, and is to extend in a direction perpendicular to the axis of said handle when said stopping projection is at a second position corresponding to when said body structure is in the folded state, and

said groove includes a stepped part that is to come into contact with said end part so as to restrain said stopping member from movement in an unlocking direction when said stopping projection is at the second position,

with a combination of said end part and said stepped part corresponding to said structure that permits unlocking of said handle from said body structure only when said body structure is in the unfolded state and inhibits unlocking of said handle from said body structure when said body structure is in the folded state.

12. (New) The stroller according to claim 11, wherein  
said end part is elliptical in shape.

13. (New) The stroller according to claim 12, further comprising:  
an operating device on said handle; and  
a connecting member extending along said handle, said connecting member having one end connected to said stopping member and another end connected to said operating device,  
wherein said connecting member is operable to be pulled by said operating device so as to move said stopping member, biased in the locking direction, in an unlocking direction that is opposite to the locking direction.

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14. (New) The stroller according to claim 11, further comprising:  
an operating device on said handle; and  
a connecting member extending along said handle, said connecting member having one end connected to said stopping member and another end connected to said operating device,  
wherein said connecting member is operable to be pulled by said operating device so as to move said stopping member, biased in the locking direction, in an unlocking direction that is opposite to the locking direction.

15. (New) The stroller according to claim 10, further comprising:  
an operating device on said handle; and  
a connecting member extending along said handle, said connecting member having one end connected to said stopping member and another end connected to said operating device,  
wherein said connecting member is operable to be pulled by said operating device so as to move said stopping member, biased in the locking direction, in an unlocking direction that is opposite to the locking direction.

16. (New) The stroller according to claim 8, further comprising:  
an operating device for unlocking said handle from said body structure upon actuation of said operating device, wherein said structure that inhibits unlocking of said handle from said body structure when said body structure is in the folded state prevents unlocking of said handle from said

body structure, when said body structure is in the folded state, upon actuation of said operating device.

17. (New) The stroller according to claim 16, wherein said handle locking mechanism includes

(i) a stopping projection provided on an outer surface of said body structure, and  
(ii) a stopping member having a groove that is adapted to engage said stopping projection, said stopping member being supported on said handle for sliding movement along an axis of said handle and being biased in a locking direction so as to allow said groove to engage said stopping projection,

such that when said stopping projection is engaged in said groove said stopping projection turns relative to said stopping member as a condition of said body structure changes between the folded state and the unfolded state, and

such that a condition of engagement of said stopping projection and said groove changes according to an angular position of said stopping projection relative to said groove.

18. (New) The stroller according to claim 17, wherein said stopping projection includes

(i) a shaft part, with said groove being adapted to engage said stopping projection by engaging said shaft part such that said shaft part turns relative to said stopping member, when said shaft part is engaged by said groove, as the condition of said body structure changes between the folded state and the unfolded state, and

(ii) an end part, on an end of said shaft part, that is to extend in a direction parallel to the axis of said handle when said stopping projection is at a first position corresponding to when said body structure is in the unfolded state, and is to extend in a direction perpendicular to the axis of said handle when said stopping projection is at a second position corresponding to when said body structure is in the folded state, and

said groove includes a stepped part that is to come into contact with said end part so as to restrain said stopping member from movement in an unlocking direction when said stopping projection is at the second position,

with a combination of said end part and said stepped part corresponding to said structure that permits unlocking of said handle from said body structure only when said body structure is in the unfolded state and inhibits unlocking of said handle from said body structure when said body structure is in the folded state.

C1 19. (New) The stroller according to claim 18, wherein said end part is elliptical in shape.

20. (New) The stroller according to claim 19, wherein said operating device is on said handle, and further comprising:

a connecting member extending along said handle, said connecting member having one end connected to said stopping member and another end connected to said operating device,

wherein said connecting member is operable to be pulled upon actuation of said operating device so as to move said stopping member, biased in the locking direction, in an unlocking direction that is opposite to the locking direction.

21. (New) The stroller according to claim 18, wherein said operating device is on said handle, and further comprising:

a connecting member extending along said handle, said connecting member having one end connected to said stopping member and another end connected to said operating device,

wherein said connecting member is operable to be pulled upon actuation of said operating device so as to move said stopping member, biased in the locking direction, in an unlocking direction that is opposite to the locking direction.

22. (New) The stroller according to claim 17, wherein said operating device is on said handle, and further comprising:

a connecting member extending along said handle, said connecting member having one end connected to said stopping member and another end connected to said operating device,

wherein said connecting member is operable to be pulled upon actuation of said operating device so as to move said stopping member, biased in the locking direction, in an unlocking direction that is opposite to the locking direction.

C1 23. (New) The stroller according to claim 8, wherein said handle locking mechanism includes

(i) a stopping projection provided on an outer surface of said body structure, and

(ii) a stopping member having a groove that is adapted to engage said stopping projection, said stopping member being supported on said handle for sliding movement along an axis of said handle and being biased in a locking direction so as to allow said groove to engage said stopping projection,

such that when said stopping projection is engaged in said groove said stopping projection turns relative to said stopping member as a condition of said body structure changes between the folded state and the unfolded state, and

such that a condition of engagement of said stopping projection and said groove changes according to an angular position of said stopping projection relative to said groove.

24. (New) The stroller according to claim 23, wherein said stopping projection includes

(i) a shaft part, with said groove being adapted to engage said stopping projection by engaging said shaft part such that said shaft part turns relative to said stopping member, when said shaft part is engaged by said groove, as the condition of said body structure changes between the folded state and the unfolded state, and

(ii) an end part, on an end of said shaft part, that is to extend in a direction parallel to the axis of said handle when said stopping projection is at a first position corresponding to when said body structure is in the unfolded state, and is to extend in a direction perpendicular to the axis of said handle when said stopping projection is at a second position corresponding to when said body structure is in the folded state, and

said groove includes a stepped part that is to come into contact with said end part so as to restrain said stopping member from movement in an unlocking direction when said stopping projection is at the second position,

with a combination of said end part and said stepped part corresponding to said structure that permits unlocking of said handle from said body structure only when said body structure is in the unfolded state and inhibits unlocking of said handle from said body structure when said body structure is in the folded state.

25. (New) The stroller according to claim 24, wherein said end part is elliptical in shape.

26. (New) The stroller according to claim 25, further comprising:  
an operating device on said handle; and  
a connecting member extending along said handle, said connecting member having one end connected to said stopping member and another end connected to said operating device,  
wherein said connecting member is operable to be pulled by said operating device so as to move said stopping member, biased in the locking direction, in an unlocking direction that is opposite to the locking direction.

27. (New) The stroller according to claim 24, further comprising:  
an operating device on said handle; and  
a connecting member extending along said handle, said connecting member having one end connected to said stopping member and another end connected to said operating device,

wherein said connecting member is operable to be pulled by said operating device so as to move said stopping member, biased in the locking direction, in an unlocking direction that is opposite to the locking direction.

C/ 28. (New) The stroller according to claim 23, further comprising:

an operating device on said handle; and

a connecting member extending along said handle, said connecting member having one end connected to said stopping member and another end connected to said operating device,

wherein said connecting member is operable to be pulled by said operating device so as to move said stopping member, biased in the locking direction, in an unlocking direction that is opposite to the locking direction.

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